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Rehearsal Script

Project No.: 50/LDL K 232E

"DOCTOR WHO" 7J

"THE GREATEST SHOW IN THE GALAXY"

TX88

by

Stephen Wyatt

EPISODE TWO

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"DOCTOR WHO" : 7J : 'THE GREATEST SHOW IN THE GALAXY' - Episode Two

CAST:

THE DOCTOR  
ACE  
CHIEF CLOWN  
MORGANA  
RINGMASTER  
THE CAPTAIN  
MAGS  
NORD  
DEADBEAT  
WHIZZKID  
BELL BOY  
FATHER  
MOTHER  
LITTLE GIRL

NON SPEAKING:

CLOWNS  
BUS CONDUCTOR

HEARD BUT NOT SEEN:

RINGMASTER'S VOICE ON TANNOY

\* \* \* \* \*

STUDIO:

Circus Vestibule  
Circus Ring/Big Tent Seating  
Tent corridors  
Backstage Area  
Workshop  
Stone passageway  
Stone chamber

OB LOCATIONS:

Circus Site

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"DOCTOR WHO"

'THE GREATEST SHOW IN THE GALAXY'

by

Stephen Wyatt

EPISODE TWO

(REPRISE OF END  
OF EPISODE ONE)

1. EXT. CIRCUS SITE. DAY.

(THE CHIEF CLOWN  
WAITS EXPECTANTLY.

ACE GIVES A  
SHRUG AND JOINS  
THE DOCTOR.

THEY START TO  
WALK TOWARDS  
THE TENT)

2. INT. CIRCUS VESTIBULE. DAY.

(MORGANA STARES  
THOUGHTFULLY INTO  
HER CRYSTAL BALL..

THE BALL IS CLEAR,  
UNCLOUDED.

IN THE BACKGROUND  
THE CANNED NOISE  
OF THE CIRCUS.

THE CHIEF CLOWN  
SLIPS BACK INTO  
THE TENT FROM  
OUTSIDE)

CHIEF CLOWN: Two more.

(MORGANA VISIBLY  
PULLS HERSELF  
TOGETHER)



3. EXT. CIRCUS SITE. DAY.

(THE DOCTOR AND  
ACE STAND AT  
THE ENTRANCE.

THEY LISTEN TO  
THE CIRCUS SOUNDS)

ACE: I did hear it, that screaming.

THE DOCTOR: But not now?

(ACE SHAKES HER  
HEAD)

So we can go in.

ACE: (UNENTHUSIASTICALLY) Yeah,  
OK.

THE DOCTOR: Your enthusiasm is over-  
whelming.

(HE LIFTS THE  
ENTRANCE FLAP)

4. INT. CIRCUS VESTIBULE. DAY.

(AS THEY ENTER  
MORGANA GREETES  
THEM WITH A  
WINNING SMILE)

MORGANA: Welcome, one and all, to  
the Psychic Circus!

(A RECORDED  
FANFARE PLAYS.

ACE TRIES TO  
LEAVE IN DISGUST)

THE DOCTOR: Now, Ace, you promised.  
(TO MORGANA) I am The Doctor and  
this is Ace. I must apologise for  
my young friend.

MORGANA: No problem. All of us  
round here believe in letting our  
feelings hang out. There's no point  
in getting uptight now is there?

ACE: (QUIETLY, WITH FEELING) I  
don't believe this.

MORGANA: (TO THE DOCTOR) That's why  
we got into circuses in the first  
place.

THE DOCTOR: We?

MORGANA: The founder members of  
the Psychic Circus.



(THE DOCTOR TAKING  
IN THE POSTERS  
AND KITES)

THE DOCTOR: Ah, I see.

MORGANA: We were all really into personal expression and the circus gave us all a chance to express ourselves by developing our individual skills.

THE DOCTOR: What's your especial skill if I might enquire?

(MORGANA, INDICATING  
THE CRYSTAL BALL)

MORGANA: Fortune-telling. Would you like to see the future?

THE DOCTOR: Not just yet.

5. EXT. CIRCUS SITE. DAY.

(THE HEARSE (AS  
SEEN IN EPISODE 1)  
DRIVES INTO THE  
SITE.

TWO CLOWNS  
DRESSED IN UNDER-  
TAKERS' GEAR GET  
OUT.

THEY OPEN THE  
BACK AND PULL  
OUT A STRETCHER.

ON IT HALF COVERED  
IS THE INOPERATIVE  
METAL BUS CONDUCTOR.

THEY START TO  
CARRY IT TOWARDS  
THE BACK OF THE  
MAIN TENT)



6. INT. VESTIBULE.

(THE DOCTOR IS  
PEERING AT THE  
POSTERS WITH DEEP  
CURIOSITY.)

MORGANA IS  
BEGINNING TO  
LOOK A BIT  
UNCOMFORTABLE)

THE DOCTOR: The Psychic Circus has  
grown into quite a sizeable little  
operation by the look of it.

MORGANA: The Greatest Show in the  
Galaxy.

THE DOCTOR: Just so. (EXAMINING  
THE POSTERS) My, my you have got  
around, haven't you? Marpesia.  
Othrys. Eudamus. Even the Grand  
Pagoda on Cinethon.

MORGANA: (NODDING NOSTALGICALLY)  
We used to have great times back in the  
old days, going from planet to planet.  
But we've really got settled in here  
since - (STOPPING HERSELF)

THE DOCTOR: (ALERT) Since?

MORGANA: Well, you have to hang  
up your travelling shoes and stop  
wandering sooner or later, don't  
you?

THE DOCTOR: So I've been told.  
Personally I've just kept on wandering.

(THE RINGMASTER'S  
VOICE STARTS TO  
BLARE OUT FROM  
THE TANNOY:)

TANNOY: Will you please takes your  
seats please.

ACE: Professor -

THE DOCTOR: Yes, Ace?

ACE: Are we going in or aren't we?

MORGANA: You're sure you want to  
go in?

THE DOCTOR: That is why we're here.

MORGANA: Look, I don't know how  
to put this but I've taken a fancy  
to you and - (cont ...)

(THE CHIEF CLOWN  
HAS RE-APPEARED  
FROM THE CIRCUS  
RING.

MORGANA FREEZES  
AS SHE SEES HIM.

HE SMILES AT THE  
NEWCOMERS AND BOWS.

ACE GLARES AT HIM  
WITH UNDISGUISED  
DISLIKE.

MORGANA, LEAPING  
BACK INTO ACTION:)



MORGANA: (cont) Of course go right in, do your own thing and -

THE DOCTOR: We don't have to buy tickets then?

MORGANA: Tickets? What for?

THE DOCTOR: To go in.

(CHIEF CLOWN GESTURING  
TOWARDS THE WAY TO  
THE RING:)

CHIEF CLOWN: You're in already.

(THE CIRCUS NOISES  
RISE SUDDENLY IN  
VOLUME)

THE DOCTOR: Sounds like you're doing good business.

CHIEF CLOWN: Indeed. This way please.

(HE LIFTS THE FLAP  
FOR THE DOCTOR.

THE RINGMASTER'S  
VOICE BLARES FROM  
THE TANNOY)

TANNOY: Please make your way to the Big Top now. Please make your way to the Big Top now etc.

MORGANA: One moment - (cont ...)

(THE DOCTOR, ACE  
AND THE CHIEF  
CLOWN TURN BACK  
BUT MORGANA  
CATCHES THE  
CHIEF CLOWN'S  
EYE)

MORGANA: (cont) I just wanted to  
say - I hope you both enjoy the  
performance.

THE DOCTOR: Thank you.

(MORGANA LOOKS DOWN  
AT HER STILL CLEAR  
AND UNCLOUDED  
CRYSTAL BALL TO  
AVOID THE CHIEF  
CLOWN'S GAZE.

HE TURNS AND WITH  
A SMILE GESTURES  
TOWARDS THE ENTRANCE  
FLAP.

THE DOCTOR ENTERS  
THE RING FOLLOWED  
BY ACE WHO STARES  
WITH HOSTILITY AT THE  
CHIEF CLOWN AS  
SHE PASSES.

THE CHIEF CLOWN REGISTERS  
FLOWERCHILD'S EAR-  
RING, WHICH ACE IS  
WEARING ON HER  
JACKET AS A BADGE.

AFTER THEY'VE GONE,  
THE CHIEF CLOWN DROPS THE  
FLAP AND LOOKS AGAIN  
AT MORGANA.

SHE TURNS HER ATTENTION  
UNHAPPILY FROM THE  
CRYSTAL BALL TO HIM.

THE ANIMATED CIRCUS  
NOISES GET LOUDER STILL)



7. INT. TENT CORRIDOR.

(THE DOCTOR AND ACE  
MAKE THEIR WAY  
ALONG THE CORRIDOR  
THAT LEADS TO THE  
BIG TOP.

LIKE ALL THE  
CIRCUS' CORRIDORS  
IT IS MADE OF STRIPS  
OF BILLOWING FABRIC,  
TRANSLUCENT ENOUGH  
FOR DIFFERENT COLOURED  
LIGHTS TO BE PLAYED  
THROUGH IT TO SUGGEST  
DIFFERENT LOCATIONS.

THIS PARTICULAR  
CORRIDOR IS VERY  
BRIGHT.

THE CIRCUS NOISES  
SEEM TO GET NEARER.

THE DOCTOR AND ACE  
REACH THE END OF THE  
CORRIDOR.

AS THEY DO SO, THE  
CIRCUS NOISES  
SUDDENLY CUT OFF AS:)

8. INT. THE BIG TENT. SEATING.

(THE DOCTOR AND  
ACE ENTER THE  
BIG TENT.

EVERYTHING  
AROUND THEM IS  
SILENT AND DARK  
LIKE COMING INTO  
AN EMPTY CINEMA)

ACE: Professor -

THE DOCTOR: Yes?

ACE: I can't see a thing.

THE DOCTOR: Me neither.

ACE: And the cheering's stopped.

THE DOCTOR: So I noticed. Well,  
perhaps we're between performances.  
Let's see if we can find a seat  
until things get under way.

(THEY EDGE ALONG  
IN THE SEMI-  
DARKNESS.

THE DOCTOR  
BUMPS INTO  
SOMETHING AND  
CLUTCHES HIS  
SHIN)

Ow!

ACE: Found somewhere to sit,  
Professor?



THE DOCTOR: That's one way of looking at it. Over here.

(THEY SIT AND  
PEER AROUND  
THEM)

In a moment our eyes'll get used to the dark.

ACE: Assuming there's anything worth seeing.

THE DOCTOR: Just a moment. Listen.

(THEY HEAR A  
RUSTLING OF  
PAPER, FOLLOWED  
BY VOICES:)

LITTLE GIRL: Daddy, Daddy -

DAD: What?

LITTLE GIRL: I want an ice cream.

DAD: You've already had one.

LITTLE GIRL: But, Daddy -

DAD: I've told you once and I'm not telling you again. Shut up and eat your popcorn.

(THE LIGHT STARTS  
TO GROW BRIGHTER.

WE SEE THAT  
SEATED CLOSE TO  
ACE AND THE  
DOCTOR IN ANOTHER  
RAISED BLOCK OF  
SEATS ARE A VERY  
TYPICAL LOOKING  
FAMILY, MOTHER,  
FATHER AND LITTLE  
GIRL.

THE MOTHER, FATHER  
AND LITTLE GIRL ARE  
ALL APATHETICALLY  
MUNCHING AT BAGS  
OF CRISPS AND  
POPCORN)

THE DOCTOR: We are not alone.

ACE: Not quite. But it looks  
like it's just us and them.

(THEY SCAN THE  
REST OF THE  
EMPTY SEATING)

What a con! I mean, where's  
Mags? And the Captain?

THE DOCTOR: Perhaps they've not  
turned up yet. Who knows.  
(INDICATING THE FAMILY) Still,  
it won't do any harm to ask.

(HE STARTS MAKING  
HIS WAY UP TOWARDS  
THE FAMILY.

WE MOVE CLOSER  
TO THEM AS HE  
CLIMBS THE STEPS  
TO THEM)

MUM: Anyway, they should be  
starting up again soon. (PAUSE)  
Have a crisp, father.

(SHE OFFERS HER  
HUSBAND A BAG  
OF CRISPS.

THE DOCTOR POPS  
UP BEHIND THEM)

THE DOCTOR: Greetings. (cont ...)

(THERE IS NO  
REPLY)



- 2/15 -

THE DOCTOR: (cont) Not many in  
today, I see. Are you regulars  
or is this your first visit too?

(STILL NO RESPONSE.)

THE FAMILY JUST  
MUNCH ON)

Let me introduce myself, I'm -

(THE MOTHER  
SUDDENLY CUTS  
ACROSS HIM BY  
STICKING A BAG  
OF CRISPS UNDER  
HIS NOSE, WHILE  
STILL STARING  
OUT FRONTWARDS.)

THE DOCTOR  
REGISTERS THE  
OFFERING WITH  
SURPRISE)

Oh, er, thank you very much.

(HE TAKES ONE  
AND GIVES IT  
A BITE. IT  
CLEARLY TASTES  
FOUL.)

THE FAMILY  
MEANWHILE, CHOMP  
ON)

Mm, delicious. Now I was just  
wondering if -

(THE CIRCUS MUSIC  
STARTS UP VERY  
LOUD)

ACE: (CALLING FROM THE BACK)  
Professor!

- 15 -

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THE DOCTOR: Yes.

ACE: They're starting.

(THE DOCTOR STARTS  
TO MOVE BACK TO  
ACE. AS HE GOES:)

THE DOCTOR: (TO THE FAMILY) It's  
been lovely talking to you.

(THE FAMILY SETTLE  
BACK TO WATCH THE  
SHOW)

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9. INT. CIRCUS RING.

(THE LIGHTS ON  
THE RING COME  
UP.

THOSE ON THE  
AUDIENCE DIM.

A LINE OF WHITE-  
FACED CLOWNS  
APPEAR JUGGLING,  
TUMBLING OR  
WHATEVER IN A  
SINGLE FILE.

LOUD CIRCUS  
MUSIC.

THEY CIRCLE  
THE RING,  
WAVING AS THE  
MUSIC BUILDS.

THE EFFECT IS  
BEAUTIFUL, BUT  
RATHER CHILLING.

THE SMILES ARE  
TOO FIXED AND  
THE GESTURES  
TOO PERFECTLY  
REGIMENTED.

THE SHAPE OF  
THE RING BECOMES  
MORE VISIBLE  
INCLUDING FOUR  
WEATHER-BEATEN  
PREHISTORIC-  
LOOKING CORNER  
STONES THAT  
STAND ROUND THE  
EDGE OF THE  
RING)

10. INT. SEATING.

(THE DOCTOR  
POINTS TOWARDS  
THE RING)

THE DOCTOR: Do you see those  
memorial stones, Ace. Remarkable.

ACE: Pity about the performance.

THE DOCTOR: Don't prejudge.



11. INT. CIRCUS RING.

(THE CLOWNS ARE  
NOW SPREAD OUT  
ROUND THE EDGE  
OF THE RING.

THEY TURN  
INWARDS AS ONE  
AND POINT  
TOWARDS THE  
CENTRE.

THE RINGMASTER  
MATERIALISES  
THERE IN A  
SPOTLIGHT, AS  
AT THE START  
OF EPISODE ONE  
AND THE LIGHTS  
AROUND HIM  
START TO DIM.

WE MOVE IN  
CLOSE ON HIS  
FACE AS HE  
SPEAKS IN HIS  
RAP STYLE)

RINGMASTER:

Now welcome, folks, and I mean that  
from the heart,  
The Greatest Show is just about to  
start.  
It's happening right here before your  
very eyes  
And I can assure you, you're in for  
a surprise.  
But then nothing's quite as it seems  
to be  
In the Greatest Show in the Galaxy.

(MUSIC.

HE SUMMONS ONE  
OF THE CLOWNS  
AND THEN TURNS  
HIM ROUND.

(THE RINGMASTER  
PRESSES A LEVER  
AND THE CLOWN'S  
BACK OPENS UP TO  
SHOW THE ROBOTIC  
MECHANISM INSIDE.

THE RINGMASTER  
SHUTS THE BACK  
AGAIN.

THE CLOWN CART-  
WHEELS AWAY AND  
THE RINGMASTER  
GRINS)



12. INT. THE SEATING.

(THE FAMILY EATS  
ON, DISPLAYING  
NO REACTION.

THE DOCTOR  
WATCHES EAGERLY.

ACE IS DISTINCTLY  
UNEASY)

13. INT. THE RING.

(THE RINGMASTER  
CLICKS HIS  
FINGERS AND  
GETS A DRUMROLL)

RINGMASTER:  
Now listen, folks, we've a great new  
act  
He's a real find and that's a fact.  
He'll entertain you and he'll make  
you stare  
And our great new act is seated over  
there.

(THE SPOT SWIVELS  
AND PICKS OUT  
THE DOCTOR IN THE  
AUDIENCE)



14. INT. SEATING.

((INTERCUT NOW AS  
NECESSARY WITH  
SCENE 13)).

THE DOCTOR RISES  
IN SURPRISE.

CANNED APPLAUSE  
ACCLAIMS HIM)

THE DOCTOR: Well, thank you, I -

RINGMASTER: Come on, Doctor,  
don't be shy.

THE DOCTOR: I'm not completely  
sure that I really should.

RINGMASTER: No false modesty  
now, we know you're good.

THE DOCTOR: This is most un-  
expected. Are you sure you want  
me?

RINGMASTER: There's no mistake,  
Doctor, come on in, just feel  
free.

(ACE URGENTLY  
TUGGING AT  
THE DOCTOR'S  
SLEEVE)

ACE: Don't go, Professor.

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THE DOCTOR: What harm can it do?

RINGMASTER: Exactly, but the  
decision is up to you.

(THE DOCTOR STARTS  
TO MOVE FORWARD.

MORE APPLAUSE)

ACE: Doctor, no!

(SHE STARTS TO  
FOLLOW HIM.

THE FAMILY  
WATCH STILL  
MUNCHING AWAY)



15. INT. THE RING.

(THE CIRCLE OF  
CLOWNS PART TO  
LET THE DOCTOR  
AND ACE IN THEN  
CLOSES AGAIN.

THE CLOWNS ARE  
CLAPPING EERILY  
ALL THE TIME.

THE RINGMASTER  
GRASPS THE DOCTOR  
WARMLY BY THE HAND)

THE DOCTOR: Well, you certainly don't  
waste any time, do you? I had intended  
to see what the competition was up to  
before putting myself forward for the  
talent contest but since you insist -

RINGMASTER: (SMILING) We do. But  
no doubt you'll want to get yourself  
prepared -

THE DOCTOR: Well, yes -

RINGMASTER: Let me show you and  
your charming assistant to the dressing  
rooms.

(ACE GLOWERS)

THE DOCTOR: Lead on. (TO ACE) Ace?

(THE RINGMASTER  
POINTS TOWARDS  
A SIDE ENTRANCE  
AND CONDUCTS THE  
DOCTOR TOWARDS IT.

ACE FOLLOWS BEHIND  
RELUCTANTLY.

SHE LOOKS BEHIND  
HER AND NOTICES  
THAT THE ROBOTIC  
CLOWNS ARE GATHERING  
BEHIND THEM IN  
A SINISTER FASHION.

SHE IS TOO FAR  
FROM THE DOCTOR  
WHO IS ANYWAY IN  
DEEP CONVERSATION  
WITH THE RINGMASTER.

THE CLOWNS PRESS  
IN MORE THREATENINGLY.

AND NOW AT THEIR  
HEAD THE CHIEF  
CLOWN HAS APPEARED.

ACE TURNS TO FACE  
HIM.

THE CHIEF CLOWN  
INDICATES THE SHARP  
ANGULAR EARRING  
PINNED AMONG THE  
BADGES ON ACE'S  
JACKET)

CHIEF CLOWN: Where did you find that?

ACE: Are you a robot too?

CHIEF CLOWN: No.

ACE: Pity.

CHIEF CLOWN: So tell me where you  
found it. (cont...)

(ACE LOOKS BEHIND  
HER.

THE DOCTOR IS ALREADY  
THROUGH THE EXIT AND  
OUT OF SIGHT.



ACE LOOKS BACK  
AT THE GATHERING  
CLOWNS AGAIN.

SHE MAKES A  
SUDDEN DECISION,  
DODGES BETWEEN  
TWO OF THE CLOWNS  
AND MAKES FOR  
THE ENTRANCE BY  
WHICH THEY FIRST  
CAME IN.

THE CLOWNS TURN  
IN CONFUSION)

CHIEF CLOWN: (cont) After her!

(THE TWO CLOWNS  
FOLLOW HIM TOWARDS  
THE ENTRANCE IN  
PURSUIT OF ACE  
PASSING THE FAMILY  
WHO SIT UNMOVED  
STARING OUT IN  
THE MIDST OF ALL  
THIS FRANTIC  
ACTIVITY.

THE LITTLE GIRL  
PUTS SOME MORE  
POPCORN IN HER  
MOUTH)

16. INT. BACKSTAGE AREA.

(THE RINGMASTER  
USHERS THE DOCTOR  
THROUGH THE FLAP)

RINGMASTER: Just over there, Doctor.

THE DOCTOR: Thank you. But where's  
Ace? I can't go on until she's -

(THEN HE HEARS A  
FAMILIAR VOICE)

CAPTAIN: Of course, on the Planet  
Iphitus the Galvanic Catastrophods  
are not what they were but still  
they're worth a look if you're doing  
a tour of the Southern Nebula and  
have an aeon or two to spare -

(THE CAPTAIN STOPS  
AS HE SEES  
THE DOCTOR.

HE IS SEATED WITH  
AN UNHAPPY LOOKING  
MAGS.

THEY ARE HAVING  
A PICNIC APPARENTLY  
AND THE CAPTAIN  
IS CHATTING TO  
NORD WHO SITS APART,  
EATING MORE OF  
HIS DISGUSTING  
SANDWICH AND LOOKING  
VERY BORED.

THE CAPTAIN LOOKS  
UP FROM HIS CUP OF  
TEA)

Well, well.



THE DOCTOR: Captain Cook, I presume.  
So you had arrived after all.

CAPTAIN: Of course. Come and join  
us, Doctor. It's one big happy  
family, eh, Nord?

NORD: (EATING AWAY) Yeah. Except  
when you're gassing on.

THE DOCTOR: Well, I'm not sure -

(HE LOOKS AROUND  
ANXIOUSLY FOR  
ACE AND NOTICES  
THE CLOWNS GATHERING  
BEHIND HIM FOR  
THE FIRST TIME)

CAPTAIN: Nonsense, old man, we're  
having a ball here.

THE DOCTOR: Oh, very well then.

(HE ADVANCES TOWARDS  
THE GROUP)

CAPTAIN: Mags -

(MAGS RELUCTANTLY  
PRODUCES A STOOL  
FOR THE DOCTOR  
WHILE THE CAPTAIN  
POURS HIM SOME TEA)

There we are, old man. Comfy?

THE DOCTOR: Well, I -

CAPTAIN: That's the spirit. (cont...)

(A DOOR SLAMS  
BEHIND THE DOCTOR.

CLOWNS DRAW AWAY  
THE BILLOWING  
TENT WALLS REVEALING  
THAT THE FOUR  
CHARACTERS ARE  
IMPRISONED IN A  
LARGE CAGE.

CLOWNS STAND GUARD.

THE RINGMASTER IS  
GONE.

THE DOCTOR WATCHES  
HORROR-STRUCK)

CAPTAIN: (cont) Anything the matter,  
old chap?

THE DOCTOR: But this is a trap. I've  
fallen into a trap. Stupid complacent  
fool that I am, I've fallen for it.

CAPTAIN: Yes, I know, old man. Never  
mind, have some tea.

(THE DOCTOR LOOKS  
AROUND.

MAGS LOOKS GRIM.

NORD DEPRESSED)

I was in a very similar situation,  
you know, once exploring the Granite  
Caves of Veturia.



17. INT. CORRIDORS.

(ACE RUNS FRANTICALLY  
DOWN THE CORRIDOR  
AWAY FROM THE BIG  
TOP.

SHE LOOKS AT  
THE BILLOWING  
CURTAINING AROUND  
HER.

SWIFTLY SHE TAKES  
THE EARRING FROM  
AMONG HER BADGES  
AND USES ITS SHARP  
EDGE TO CUT THROUGH  
THE CLOTH OF THE  
WALL.

SHE STEPS INTO  
THE HOLE AND PULLS  
THE CURTAINING  
TOGETHER SO THAT  
SHE IS HIDDEN.

A FEW MOMENTS LATER  
THE CLOWNS COME UP.

THEY PAUSE FOR A  
MOMENT UNTIL THE  
CHIEF CLOWN COMES  
UP.

HE POINTS THEM ON  
AHEAD TO THE  
VESTIBULE.

THE CORRIDOR IS  
LEFT EMPTY.

ACE POPS HER HEAD  
CAUTIOUSLY OUT OF  
THE HOLE AND LOOKS  
ABOUT)

18. INT. BACKSTAGE.

(THE DOCTOR LOOKS  
DISCONSOLATELY AT  
HIS UNTOUCHED CUP OF  
TEA)

THE DOCTOR: Why?

CAPTAIN: Why what?

THE DOCTOR: Let me be trapped. It's  
so pointless. I could have saved you  
and Mags.

CAPTAIN: I wouldn't be too sure about  
that, Doctor. These circus chappies  
are pretty smart customers for all  
their 'letting it all hang out' mumbo-  
jumbo.

(MAGS GETS UP  
ANGRILY)

MAGS: Maybe we could have got away.  
If we'd made a break for it there and  
then. If only you'd -

CAPTAIN: Now, now, Mags, no use  
getting upset. And that's an order.

(MAGS SUBSIDES.)

THE DOCTOR TURNS  
TO NORD)

THE DOCTOR: How about you? Why didn't  
you speak out? (cont...)



(NORD TURNS AWAY  
WITH A DISGUSTED  
GRUNT)

THE DOCTOR: (cont) What sort of  
answer's that?

CAPTAIN: Save your energy, Doctor.  
You'll soon see why. Anyway, all of  
us in here have developed a survival  
philosophy. Which is why we welcomed  
you in. The more the merrier really.

(THE DOCTOR STARTS  
TO PACE THE CAGE)

THE DOCTOR: What is all this then?  
Is there some sort of talent contest  
going on.

CAPTAIN: (JUDICIOUSLY) Well, yes.  
But in a way it's more like a survival  
of the fittest.

(THE DOCTOR HEARS  
A STRANGE SHUFFLING  
NOISE. HE LOOKS  
OUT.

A STRANGE LOOKING  
WASTED MALE HIPPIE  
FIGURE OF INDETERMINATE  
AGE IS SWEEPING THE  
FLOOR. ROUND HIS  
NECK HE HAS A LARGE  
HIPPIE MEDALLION)

That's Deadbeat. He does odd jobs  
about the place. I wouldn't bother  
about it too much though. The  
fellow's mind is completely gone.

(DEADBEAT NOTICES  
THE DOCTOR LOOKING  
AT HIM.

DEADBEAT STARES  
BACK AND GIVES A  
MAD EMPTY GRIN.  
THEN HE BREAKS  
INTO A RAMBLING  
ALMOST TUNELESS  
FRAGMENT OF SONG,  
REMINISCENT OF  
A 60's DYLAN NUMBER)

DEADBEAT: Gone, gone ... All really  
gone ... All really gone down the  
road ...

(HE SWEEPS ON.

THE DOCTOR STUDIES  
HIM THOUGHTFULLY)



19. INT. VESTIBULE.

(ACE CREEPS INTO  
THE VESTIBULE.

SHE SEES MORGANA  
ALONE STARING  
INTENTLY INTO  
HER CLEAR CRYSTAL  
BALL.

ACE STARTS TO  
MOVE TOWARDS HER.

BUT SHE HEARS  
FOOTSTEPS COMING  
FROM THE CORRIDOR  
BEHIND.

SHE SWIFTLY HIDES  
HERSELF BEHIND  
ONE OF THE KITES  
SOME WAY FROM  
WHERE MORGANA IS.

IN SO DOING SHE  
SETS OFF A DEVICE  
ON TOP OF THE  
KITE WHICH GIVES  
OFF A BLEEPING SOUND  
LIKE THAT HEARD  
IN EPISODE ONE.

SHE HAS QUICKLY  
TO REMOVE IT AND  
SILENCE IT AS  
THE RINGMASTER COMES  
OUT OF THE BIG TENT.

MORGANA ABSORBED  
IN STARING ONLY  
LOOKS UP AS HE  
COMES TOWARDS HER)

RINGMASTER: Well?

MORGANA: We have to talk.

(ACE HIDDEN BEHIND  
THE KITE STRAINS  
FORWARD TO LISTEN)



20. INT. BACKSTAGE.

(DEADBEAT IS SWEEPING  
AWAY OUTSIDE THE  
CAGE.

HE PEERS AT NORD  
WHO GLARES BACK)

NORD: Clear off! I hate you. I  
hate all your kind. I'm Nord, see.  
The toughest Infernal Extraterrestrial  
there is. See?

(DEADBEAT CACKLES  
MADLY IN HIS FACE  
AND HUMMING SWEEPS  
OUT OF SIGHT.

MEANWHILE THE  
DOCTOR PACES  
THE CAGE)

THE DOCTOR: What a fool I've been.

CAPTAIN: Frankly, old chap, I have  
to agree.

THE DOCTOR: I should have listened  
to Ace.

CAPTAIN: Number one rule of the  
inter-galactic explorer, Doctor. If  
you hear somebody talking about good  
vibes and letting it all hang out,  
run a mile.

MAGS: We didn't.

CAPTAIN: That's beside the point.

THE DOCTOR: What happens in there?

CAPTAIN: In where?

THE DOCTOR: In the Big Top. During the talent contest.

CAPTAIN: Oh, something pretty nasty.

(THE RINGMASTER'S  
VOICE OVER TANNOYS  
START TO CALL OUT:)

TANNOY: Next contestant ready please.

(HE CAPTAIN RISES  
NONCHALANTLY AND  
APPROACHES NORD)

Here, Nord -

NORD: What?

CAPTAIN: Remember our agreement.  
(HOLDING UP A COIN) Heads or tails?

NORD: Tails.

(THE CAPTAIN TOSSES  
THE COIN.

NORD WATCHES  
SUSPICIOUSLY AS  
THE COIN FALLS)

CAPTAIN: Heads.

NORD: So?

CAPTAIN: You're on next.



(NORD RISING AND  
GRABBING HIM BY  
THE THROAT)

NORD: What did you say?

CAPTAIN: (CALMLY) We all agreed.  
Didn't we, Mags?

(MAGS HAS GONE  
TO THE CAPTAIN'S  
ASSISTANCE WRAPPING  
HER BELT ROUND  
HER FIST AS SOME  
SORT OF WEAPON.

CLOWNS HAVE STARTED  
TO APPEAR LEAD BY  
CHIEF CLOWN)

Next contestant over there -

(THE CAGE DOOR  
OPENS AND CLOWNS  
PRISE NORD AWAY  
FROM THE CAPTAIN)

CHIEF CLOWN: (TO OTHERS) Get him  
ready.

(A TEAM OF MAKE UP  
AND WARDROBE CLOWN  
ROBOTS DESCEND ON  
NORD WHO IS HELPLESS  
TO PROTEST.

THE CAPTAIN AND  
MAGS REJOIN THE  
DOCTOR)

THE DOCTOR: You were lucky, Captain.

CAPTAIN: Not really. (cont...)

(THE CAPTAIN HOLDS  
UP THE COIN. IT  
HAS A DOUBLE HEAD)

CAPTAIN: (cont) I got a whole set of  
these simple little knick-knacks when  
I was on the planet Leophantos.  
Swapped them with some bug-eyed monster  
for a supersonic pencil sharpener.  
Like I said, Doctor, it's every man  
for himself here.

(HE SMILES GENIALLY.

A CLOWN COMES OVER  
AND HANDS THE DOCTOR  
SOME IDIAN CLUBS)

THE DOCTOR: What am I supposed to  
do with these?

CAPTAIN: Practice juggling I imagine.  
Your chances of survival in the ring  
are better, of course, if you keep  
them entertained.

THE DOCTOR: They let you out again.

CAPTAIN: No. But you last longer.

(THE DOCTOR STARES  
AT THE CLUBS.

IN THE DISTANCE  
NORD STRUGGLES AS  
HE IS PREPARED)



21. INT. VESTIBULE.

(ACE STILL CROUCHES  
BEHIND HER KITE  
LISTENING.)

WE MOVE CLOSER  
TO WHERE THE  
RINGMASTER AND  
MORGANA STAND  
BY THE TICKET  
BOOTH WITH A  
REGISTER OF  
TICKET SALES  
OPEN IN FRONT  
OF THEM)

MORGANA: Look at all those names  
there. Does that make you feel  
good? It wasn't always like  
this, was it? Not before we came  
to this dreadful place. We used  
to have fun. We were free spirits  
then.

RINGMASTER: We are now.

MORGANA: You think so? It feels  
like we're part of a machine.

RINGMASTER: We're not leaving if  
that's what you mean.

MORGANA: We must.

(ACE HIDDEN BEHIND  
THE KITE STILL  
LISTENS INTENTLY)

RINGMASTER: So you keep saying.  
But you haven't gone, have you?

MORGANA: I try ... and then ...

(SHE SHRUGS  
HOPELESSLY)

RINGMASTER: Just so long as they  
keep on coming. And they will.  
No doubt of that. We're a success,  
don't you understand? An inter-  
galactic success. The others couldn't  
take the pace that's all. Deadbeat.  
Bellboy. Flowerchild. The rest.  
Don't you understand? They wanted  
to live in the past. The old lazy  
ways. Not us. We'll make the  
Psychic Circus known everywhere.

MORGANA: Known for what?

(THE CHIEF CLOWN  
APPEARS WITH  
A COUPLE OF  
ROBOT CLOWNS.

THEY STAND MUCH  
CLOSER THAN  
THE OTHERS TO  
ACE'S KITE.

MORGANA AND  
THE RINGMASTER  
STOP ALMOST  
GUILTILY.

ACE FREEZES  
AND LISTENS  
STILL MORE  
INTENTLY)

RINGMASTER: Well?

CHIEF CLOWN: That new pair worry  
me. The girl that escaped had one  
of Flowerchild's ear-rings.



RINGMASTER: Have they found the girl?

CHIEF CLOWN: Not yet. But she can't have gone far. I'm going to search myself. Can you manage in the Ring without me for a while?

RINGMASTER: Sure. But make sure you find her.

(THE RINGMASTER  
GOES BACK TO  
THE RING.

ACE STARTS  
TENTATIVELY  
TO TRY AND CREEP  
AWAY UNDER COVER  
OF THE KITES.

THE CHIEF CLOWN  
IS ABOUT TO  
LEAVE WHEN  
MORGANA SPEAKS:)

MORGANA: And Bellboy?

CHIEF CLOWN: Let's hope he's learnt his lesson, shall we? We better get him back to work.

(HE TAPS ONE  
OF THE ROBOT  
CLOWNS)

Bellboy made them all. Bellboy can repair them.

MORGANA: But will he ever -

(SHE BREAKS OFF.

A BLEEPING DEVICE  
HAS GONE OFF.

AND NOW ONE OF  
THE KITES FALLS  
FORWARD REVEALING  
ACE IN THE ACT  
OF TRYING TO  
SILENCE IT.

SHE SUCCEEDS  
JUST AS SHE  
REALISES SHE  
IS NOW ON VIEW.

EVERYONE IS  
IMMOBILE FOR A  
MOMENT WITH  
SURPRISE.

THEN ACE MAKES  
A BREAK FOR  
THE EXIT.

A CLOWN MOVES  
TO BLOCK HER  
BUT SHE KNOCKS  
IT ASIDE.

THE CHIEF CLOWN  
AND THE OTHER  
CLOWN CHARGE  
AFTER HER.

MORGANA RISES  
FROM HER SEAT  
TO CALL AFTER  
THEM BUT HAS TO  
STOP BECAUSE  
SOMEONE COMES  
THROUGH THE  
ENTRANCE FLAP.

MORGANA LOOKS UP  
TO GREET HIM.

IT IS THE WHIZZKID  
WHO ENTERS ALL  
SMILES)

•  
WHIZZKID: Hello, this is the  
Psychic Circus isn't it?

MORGANA: Yes.



WHIZZKID: Oh great. I've come half way across the Southern Nebula to be here. I want to enter the talent contest. You see, I know all about the Psychic Circus. In fact, I'm your greatest fan.

(MORGANA STARES  
AT HIM AGHAST)

22. INT. CORRIDORS.

(ACE CHARGES DOWN  
A TENT CORRIDOR.

SHE LOOKS BEHIND  
HER AND DECIDES  
TO TAKE A PAUSE  
FOR BREATH.

SHE HEARS A MOANING.

IT IS COMING FROM  
BEHIND A SECTION  
OF THE BILLOWING  
CURTAINING, IN  
WHICH THERE IS  
A CLOSED FLAP.

SHE PAUSES FOR  
A MOMENT THEN  
LIFTS THE FLAP.

BEHIND IS A  
SMALL CUPBOARD-LIKE  
SPACE OF CURTAINING.

AND IN IT STRAPPED  
TO A LARGE KITE,  
MOANING, IS BELLBOY.

HIS FACE IS PALE  
AND LINED, HIS  
EYES VACANT AND  
SCARED, HIS HAIR  
NOW ALMOST COMPLETELY  
WHITE AS IF HE'S  
BEEN THROUGH SOME  
VIOLENT ELECTRICAL  
SHOCK TREATMENT.

HE LOOKS AT ACE  
AND MUMBLES PITEOUSLY.

ACE STARES, UNCERTAIN  
WHAT TO DO)



23. INT. BACKSTAGE.

(THE CLOWNS HAVE  
PREPARED NORD  
FOR HIS APPEARANCE  
ON STAGE.

HE HAS A LEOPARD  
SKIN PULLED OVER  
HIS LEATHERS.

NORD HIMSELF IS  
LOOKING MORE  
HOPEFUL.

HE TURNS TO THE  
WATCHING CAPTAIN  
WHO STANDS WITH  
MAGS AND THE  
DOCTOR)

NORD: I'll show you. You'll see.

(RECORDED FANFARE.

THE CAGE DOORS  
SWING OPEN.

AND A LARGE  
DOOR OPENS IN  
THE BACKWALL.

LIGHT FLOODS IN.

NORD WALKS INTO  
IT FOLLOWED BY  
ATTENDANT CLOWNS.

THE DOCTOR STOPS  
HIS JUGGLING AND  
COMES UP TO MAGS.

DESPITE HERSELF,  
SHE IS SHAKING)

THE DOCTOR: It scares you doesn't it, Mags?

MAGS: (SARDONICALLY) Oh, he'll be fine. Just like the other one was.

THE DOCTOR: You saw what happened, didn't you?

MAGS: So?

THE DOCTOR: Are you going to tell me?

MAGS: (TURNING AWAY SHARPLY) See for yourself.

(THE CAPTAIN SITS  
AND POURS HIMSELF  
SOME MORE TEA)

CAPTAIN: Don't bother Mags, Doctor, will you? You have to be careful with these rare specimens.

THE DOCTOR: What do you mean?

CAPTAIN: (ENIGMATICALLY) You'll see.

(THE DOCTOR MOVES  
TO THE CAGE DOOR.

THE CLOWNS HAVE DRAWN  
THE CURTAINS AGAIN.

BUT THEY LEAVE  
A SMALL GAP.

HE PEERS THROUGH.

THE CROWD NOISES  
BUILD)



24. INT. CORRIDORS.

(ACE IS TRYING  
TO COMMUNICATE  
WITH BELLBOY)

ACE: Look, I want to help. But  
you're not making it easy. Can't  
you at least tell me -

(BELLBOY COWERS  
BACK.

HE HAS HEARD  
FOOTSTEPS.

NOW ACE HEARS  
THEM TOO.

THE CHIEF CLOWN  
AND TWO OTHERS  
ARE COMING DOWN  
THE CORRIDOR)

(SARCASTICALLY) Oh, great.

(SHE LOOKS AROUND  
FOR SOMEWHERE  
TO HIDE AND  
REALISES THE  
ONLY PLACE IS  
BEHIND THE KITE  
BELLBOY IS  
STRAPPED TO)

(TO BELLBOY) Don't tell on me,  
will you?

(SHE CONCEALS  
HERSELF JUST  
IN TIME.

THE CHIEF CLOWN  
COMES INTO VIEW.

HE LEANS FORWARD  
TO SPEAK TO  
BELLBOY, VERY  
CLOSE TO ACE'S  
HIDING PLACE  
BEHIND)

CHIEF CLOWN: Learnt your lesson,  
eh, Bellboy? No more running  
away now?

(BELLBOY GROANS)

Good. Because we've got some  
important repair work for you to  
do. The Conductor's been damaged.

(THE TWO ATTENDANT  
CLOWNS COME  
FORWARD AND UNTIE  
BELLBOY FROM  
THE KITE.

THEY VIRTUALLY  
HAVE TO PICK  
HIM UP AND  
CARRY HIM AWAY.

THE CHIEF CLOWN  
TAKES A LAST  
LOOK INSIDE)

That girl must be somewhere.

(HE THEN PULLS  
THE FLAP BACK.

LEAVING ACE  
INSIDE)



25. INT. THE RING.

((INTERCUT AS  
NECESSARY WITH  
THE DOCTOR WATCHING  
AS AT THE END  
OF SCENE 23)).

WE SEE THE  
CIRCUS SCENE  
IN PART AS IF  
FROM THE DOCTOR'S  
P.O.V.:

THE ACTION IS  
GLIMPSED IN A  
FRAGMENTARY,  
RATHER NIGHTMARISH  
WAY AS IF THE  
WATCHER CANNOT SEE  
EVERYTHING AT  
ONE TIME.

THE FAMILY SIT  
AS BEFORE  
CHOMPING AWAY.

THE RINGMASTER  
APPEARS TO CANNED  
APPLAUSE.

NORD IS WHEELED  
ON IN A SMALL  
MOBILE CAGE.

HE IS LET OUT  
BY CLOWNS.

A SPOT HITS HIM.

THE RINGMASTER  
GRINS AND NORD  
IS SHOWN A HUGE  
BARBELL TO LIFT.

FOR THE FIRST  
TIME NORD LOOKS  
CONFIDENT.

WITH MUCH STRAINING  
HE TRIUMPHANTLY  
LIFTS THE BARBELL  
UP AND SHOWS IT  
PROUDLY TO THE  
AUDIENCE.

THE FAMILY HOLDS  
UP CARDS WITH  
FIGURES ON THEM.  
ALL ARE 9's.

THE RINGMASTER  
PATS NORD ON  
THE BACK.

NORD SMIRKS.

THE RINGMASTER  
HOLDS UP HIS  
HAND TO CUT THE  
CANNED APPLAUSE)

RINGMASTER:

A man of might is Nord.  
Now he'll go for broke  
By making you laugh  
With a favourite joke.

NORD: But - but -

(THE SPOT HITS  
HIM AGAIN,  
NORD BLANCHES  
THEN TENTATIVELY  
STARTS:)

A funny thing happened to me on the  
way to the er on the way to the  
er ...

(HIS VOICE FADES  
AWAY.

WE CUT TO THE  
FAMILY.

THE FAMILY NOW  
HOLD UP CARDS  
READING 0. ALL  
OF THEM)



26. INT. BACKSTAGE.

(THE DOCTOR  
WATCHING GRAVELY.

NORD IS HEARD  
PROTESTING AND  
SCREAMING.

SUDDENLY THE  
NOISE IS CUT OFF.

MAGS HAS JOINED  
THE DOCTOR  
DESPITE HERSELF.

THE DOCTOR  
TURNS AWAY FROM  
THE CAGE DOOR  
IN DISGUST)

THE DOCTOR: (STERNLY) Is this  
what you saw before?

MAGS: Not exactly. But just as  
bad.

(THE LOUD CIRCUS  
STARTS UP AGAIN.

A HARSH BLASTING  
NOISE AND A  
BRILLIANT  
COLOURED-FLASH  
OF LIGHT FROM  
THE DIRECTION  
OF THE RING  
LIKE THE FALL-OUT  
OF AN EXPLOSION)

27. INT. THE RING.

(THE SPOT STILL  
COVERS THE GROUND  
WHERE NORD STOOD.

ALL THAT'S LEFT  
IS THE LEOPARD  
SKIN, SINGED  
AND SCORCHED.

TO CANNED APPLAUSE  
THE RINGMASTER  
DISPLAYS A  
HANDFUL OF DUST  
HE HOLDS.

THEN HE POURS  
IT SLOWLY ON  
TO THE GROUND)



28. INT. BACKSTAGE.

(MAGS AND THE  
DOCTOR WATCH  
WIDE-EYED)

THE DOCTOR: Could you let something  
like that happen to you?

(MAGS SHAKES HER  
HEAD.

THEY BOTH LOOK  
DOWN INVOLUNTARILY  
AT THE INDIAN  
CLUBS THE DOCTOR  
STILL HOLDS.

THERE IS SOMETHING  
ANIMAL-LIKE IN  
MAGS' SMILE)

29. INT. VESTIBULE.

(THE WHIZZKID IS  
IN FULL FLOOD  
TO A DEEPLY  
BORED MORGANA)

WHIZZKID: It must be awfully  
exciting working for the Psychic  
Circus, Morgana. Particularly  
when you did your tour of the  
Boriatic Wastes. I think most of  
your admirers would agree with me  
that, that was one of your finest  
ever gigs. Well, in so far as you  
can tell from the posters, of  
course, and -

MORGANA: (CUTTING IN) Wouldn't you  
like to be getting along inside?

WHIZZKID: (THRILLED) You mean,  
I can go in? Just like that?

MORGANA: Yeah. Go in right now.  
Please.

WHIZZKID: Oh wow!

(HE STARTS TOWARDS  
THE ENTRANCE TO  
THE RING.

MORGANA WATCHES  
HIM GO WITHOUT  
ANY OF THE CONCERN  
WE SAW HER SHOW  
FOR EARLIER  
VISITORS)



30. INT. TENT CORRIDORS.

(A RIPPING SOUND.

ACE IS LETTING  
HERSELF OUT OF  
THE CUPBOARD-LIKE  
SPACE IN WHICH  
SHE HAS BEEN SHUT.

SHE EMERGES AND  
STARTS DOWN THE  
CORRIDOR)

31. INT. BACKSTAGE.

(THE DOCTOR AND  
MAGS ARE PRACTISING  
THROWING THE  
INDIAN CLUBS  
BETWEEN THEM.

THE CAPTAIN WATCHES)

CAPTAIN: Mags -

MAGS: (FIERCELY) What?

CAPTAIN: It's not going to work. I  
remember when I was in the Baleful Plains  
of Grolon I -

MAGS: I don't care.

(THE CAPTAIN SHRUGS  
IN MILD SURPRISE  
AND SIPS HIS TEA)

THE DOCTOR: Ready?

(MAGS NODS.

THEY START TO  
ARGUE CLEARLY  
BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT)

I'm next, I believe.

MAGS: No, me.



(THE GUARD ROBOT  
CLOWNS STARE AMAZED)

THE DOCTOR: (SOTTO VOCE) Keep it  
up. I think it's going to work.

(THEY CONTINUE  
ARGUING)

MAGS: Look, I'm ahead of you.

THE DOCTOR: Oh no, you're not. I  
insist on going first.

MAGS: Oh no, you don't ...

(AND SO ON)

32. INT. CORRIDOR.

(ACE COMES DOWN  
THE CORRIDOR AND  
SUDDENLY STOPS.

TWO CLOWNS EMERGE  
FROM A DOOR WITH  
A STRETCHER. ON IT  
A BODY COVERED  
APART FROM THE  
HEAD. IT IS  
THE NEWLY REPAIRED  
METAL BUS CONDUCTOR)

CHIEF CLOWN: (FROM INSIDE) Take  
it back to the site. (cont ...)

(WE SEE IT CARRIED  
OFF DOWN THE CORRIDOR  
AWAY FROM ACE BUT  
SHE IS TOO FAR  
AWAY TO SEE WHAT  
THEY ARE CARRYING.

ACE CREEPS NEARER.  
THEN THE CHIEF CLOWN  
EMERGES SUDDENLY  
FROM THE SAME  
DOOR. AND TURNS  
IN THE OTHER  
DIRECTION.

ACE RUNS AWAY TO  
LOOK FOR COVER.

BUT SHE HAS BEEN  
TOO INTENT ON  
LISTENING TO NOTICE THAT  
DEADBEAT HAS APPEARED  
BEHIND HER BRUSHING  
THE FLOOR.

SO NOW ACE RUNS  
STRAIGHT INTO HIM.



DEADBEAT SMILES  
MADLY BLOCKING ACE  
PATH IN A PLAYFUL  
AFTER YOU, NO  
AFTER YOU GAME.

AND THE CHIEF  
CLOWN COMES UP  
BEHIND HER AND  
GRABS HER)

CHIEF CLOWN: (cont) No. Let me entertain  
you.

33. INT. THE RING.

RINGMASTER:

Well folks, they just keep on coming.  
What a day!  
Another great act coming your way.

(HE SIGNALS AND  
THE SPOT HITS THE  
WHIZZKID WHO IS  
SEATED IN THE  
AUDIENCE IN THE  
IDENTICAL POSITION  
TO ACE AND THE  
DOCTOR.

THE RINGMASTER IS  
GRINNING FROM  
THE RING)

I'm sure he'll entertain you and make  
you stare  
Our great new act who's seated over  
there.

(ENTRANCE THE  
WHIZZKID RISES TO  
CANNED APPLAUSE.

HE STARTS TO MOVE  
FORWARD PAST THE  
FAMILY.

ONCE HE'S OUT OF  
EARSHOT THE MOTHER  
TURNS TO THE  
FATHER)

MOTHER: Hope he's better than the  
last one.



FATHER: Couldn't be worse.

GIRL: Mum, mum -

MOTHER: Shut up, and eat your popcorn.

34. INT. BACKSTAGE.

(THE DOCTOR AND  
MAGS ARE STILL  
ARGUING)

THE DOCTOR: Look, there's no argument.  
I'm going on first.

MAGS: I told you. I am.

THE DOCTOR: No, no, me ...

(A ROBOT CLOWN  
OPENS THE CAGE  
TO SEE WHAT THE  
NOISE IS ABOUT.  
AS HE PEERS IN,  
THEY BOTH SWIFTLY  
BATTER HIM OVER THE  
HEAD WITH THEIR  
INDIAN CLUBS AND  
MAKE FOR THE DOOR.

THE DOCTOR TURNS  
AT THE EXIT)

Captain?

CAPTAIN: No, thanks, old man. I'll  
sit this one out. Goodbye, Mags.

MAGS: (WITH BOTTLED UP DISMAY) Goodbye,  
Captain.

(THEY RUN FROM THE  
CAGE. ANOTHER CLOWN  
COMES UP. THEY  
BIFF HIM OVER  
THE HEAD TOO  
AND RUN OFF)



35. INT. WORKSHOP.

(ALL IS BLACKNESS  
THEN THE DOOR IS  
OPENED AND THE  
CHIEF CLOWN PUSHES  
IN A PROTESTING  
ACE)

ACE: Let me go. Let me go, pastry  
face.

CHIEF CLOWN: Oh no. Half an hour  
in there and you'll tell me what I  
want to know. Don't like clowns, do  
you?

(HE PUSHES HER IN  
AND SHUTS THE  
DOOR.

SHE BANGS ON IT.  
SOMETHING RUSTLES  
IN THE DARK BEHIND  
HER. SHE TURNS  
AND ADVANCES INTO  
THE ROOM TO FACE IT.

SHE CAN JUST BEGIN  
TO MAKE OUT THAT  
THIS IS SOME SORT  
OF WORKSHOP WITH  
ROBOTS AND ROBOT  
PARTS STACKED ALL  
AROUND IT)

ACE: Who's there? Come on, you don't  
scare me.

(TWO ROBOTIC CLOWNS  
LOOM OUT OF THE  
SHADOWS.

THE TWO CLOWNS  
ARE HALF-FINISHED  
OR HALF REPAIRED AND  
ONE IS SEMI-DISMEMBERED.  
THE CLOWN COSTUMES  
ONLY PARTIALLY  
CONCEAL THE METAL  
BENEATH.

ACE GASPS.

ACE REACHES TO DISMEMBERED  
PICK UP A  
ARM FROM A  
NEARBY WORKBENCH,  
INTENDING TO USE  
IT AS A WEAPON.

WHEREUPON THE ARM  
GRABS BACK AT HER.

ACE CRIES OUT, LETS  
IT GO AND RETREATS  
AGAIN TOWARDS THE  
DOOR.

THE CLOWNS BEGIN  
TO ADVANCE ON HER)



36. INT. BACKSTAGE.

(THE RINGMASTER IS  
USHERING THE WHIZZKID  
INTO THE BACKSTAGE  
AREA WITH CLOWNS  
IN ATTENDANCE)

WHIZZKID: Well, I have to say, it's  
a real thrill for me to be here at  
the Psychic Circus. I've collected  
all your posters you see. From all  
your venues. And I've -

(THE RINGMASTER HAS  
STOPPED IN AMAZEMENT.

THE WHIZZKID FOLLOWS  
HIS GAZE.

THE CAGE LIES OPEN.  
WITH A COUPLE OF  
DEFUNCT ROBOT  
CLOWNS LYING ON THE  
FLOOR.

AND THE CAPTAIN  
SITTING THERE WHO  
LOOKS UP WELCOMINGLY)

37. INT. CORRIDOR/STONE PASSAGEWAY

(THE DOCTOR AND  
MAGS RUN DOWN A  
BILLOWING CORRIDOR.

THE TANNOYS CRACKLE  
INTO LIFE WITH  
RINGMASTER'S VOICE)

TANNOY: Calling the Doctor. Calling  
the Doctor. There's no escape.  
Repeat. There's no escape.

(THEY STOP TO  
LISTEN. AT  
THE END THE  
DOCTOR SNAPS)

THE DOCTOR: There's no need to repeat.  
I heard the first time.

(THEY START TO  
MOVE ON)

(MOPPING HIS BROW) I'd no idea the  
tent area was so huge. We should  
have made straight for the open air,  
I suppose.

MAGS: Look.

(AHEAD IS AN ARCH-LIKE  
ENTRANCE OF STONE  
COVERED IN HIEROGLYPHICS.  
BEYOND IT DARKER  
CORRIDORS CARVED  
IN STONE.

THE DOCTOR EXAMINES  
IT)



THE DOCTOR: Extraordinary, quite extraordinary. The same sort of stones that stand in the big tent itself. Where can they come from.

MAGS: Maybe they were always here.

THE DOCTOR: That thought had occurred to me.

MAGS: (SUDDENLY AGITATED) Can you see it?

THE DOCTOR: See what?

MAGS: That moon sign.

(SHE POINTS UP AT  
A SIGN CUT INTO  
THE STONE OF THE  
ARCH.

IT SHOWS A CRESCENT  
MOON AND NEXT TO  
IT A FULL MOON  
EMERGING FROM  
CLOUDS.

BOTH INLAID IN  
SILVER)

THE DOCTOR: (ALERT) A moon? Why does that worry you? Tell me.

MAGS: We should get on.

(THE TANNOY MESSAGE  
ECHOES DOWN THE  
CORRIDOR AS THEY  
MOVE ON)

TANNOY: Calling the Doctor. There's no escape.

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MAGS: Won't they take no for an answer?

THE DOCTOR: No.

(THEY GO INTO  
STONE CHAMBER  
AREA (CORRIDOR))

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38. INT. STONE CHAMBER.

(THE DOCTOR AND  
MAGS START DOWN A  
STONE CORRIDOR.

IT IS DARK AND  
THE STONES ARE  
COVERED IN  
HIEROGLYPHICS)

MAGS: It's weird. I don't understand.

THE DOCTOR: Neither do I. Yet.

(MAGS TAKES A STEP  
FORWARD AND GIVES  
A CRY.

SHE IS ABOUT TO  
TUMBLE HEADFIRST  
DOWN SOMETHING.

THE DOCTOR CATCHES  
HER IN TIME.

THEY STOP TO  
STARE DOWN.

A HOLE IN THE  
GROUND, DARK AND  
APPARENTLY  
BOTTOMLESS STOPS  
THEIR PATH)

Nasty little booby trap that. If  
it is a booby trap, that is. The  
Pharoahs used something rather similar.  
I told Ramses the Second they were  
more trouble than they were worth.  
(MOVES CLOSER) Still there's certainly  
no way ahead.

MAGS: Is it a well?

THE DOCTOR: One way to find out.

(HE TAKES THE INDIAN  
CLUB HE'S STILL  
CARRYING AND DROPS  
IT DOWN THE HOLE.

THEY STRAIN FOR  
ANY SOUND. NONE  
COMES.

THEN THEY PEER  
DOWN.

BELOW IN THE  
WELL IS A RED  
RIMMED EYE  
STARING AT THEM  
RECALLING THE  
SYMBOL ON THE  
KITES.

MAGS BACKS  
AWAY IN SHOCK.

THE DOCTOR CONTINUES  
TO CALMLY PEER DOWN)

(THOUGHTFULLY) That eye. I've seen  
it before. It was all over the kites  
in the entrance hall. Fascinating.

(HE PEERS DOWN  
INTO THE WELL  
WHILE MAGS HOLDS  
BACK NERVOUSLY)

Somehow somewhere down here must be  
a clue to all that is going on in  
the Psychic Circus.

(A THROAT IS CLEARED  
BEHIND THEM. THEY  
TURN TO FACE THE  
CAPTAIN ACCOMPANIED  
BY A POSSE OF CLOWNS)



CAPTAIN: Awfully sorry to butt in like this, old chap. But I'm afraid you're wanted. You're the next one due on in the Ring.

(THE DOCTOR AND  
MAGS STARE AT HIM)

FADE OUT